

EXHIBIT 7

In The Matter Of:

*CHAE BROTHERS, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, ET AL. v.
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, ET AL.*

CHIEF MELISSA HYATT

December 2, 2020

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1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
2 DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
3 NORTHERN DIVISION
4 CIVIL ACTION NO.: 1:17-CV-01657-SAG

5
6 CHAE BROTHERS, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
7 D/B/A FIRESIDE NORTH LIQUORS, ET AL.,
8 PLAINTIFF,

9
10 VS.

11
12 MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, ET AL.,
13 DEFENDANTS.

14 _____/
15 VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF CHIEF MELISSA HYATT

16 DATE: DECEMBER 2, 2020

17 REPORTER: GERVEL WATTS

18 PLACE: 700 EAST JOPPA AVENUE
19 BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

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1 passed?

2 A I -- I honestly, you know, unfortunately, it's
3 -- it's been a really long time and I don't remember any
4 details.

5 Q Sure. You referred to unified command before
6 as kind of a coordinating vehicle for different agencies
7 or departments within the city. You mentioned
8 Department of Health, fire department, police
9 department. Was unified command also used for outside
10 jurisdictions to the extent that mutual aid was
11 provided?

12 A Yes, so when we had mutual aid in Baltimore
13 City, part of that -- that coordinating entity was --
14 was through unified command, was through this -- this
15 same ICS structure.

16 Q Okay. And do you recall, again, we provided
17 some context points, right? Arrests, passing, April
18 25th, April 27th. Do you recall when in that timeline
19 mutual aid started coming in?

20 A I'm going to struggle a little bit with -- I
21 remember certain pieces, so I'm going to tell you what I
22 remember but I don't necessarily remember some of the
23 timeline. I remember when we had our first concerns
24 about a demonstration that was planned and I remember in
25 our com stat room we invited all of the local

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1 jurisdiction chiefs to -- to come to try to convince
2 them to -- to provide resources for us because we knew
3 we didn't have enough police officers. So that was the,
4 you know, that was for me the -- the first conversation
5 that I had been involved with in terms of bringing in
6 mutual aid. I don't remember when that was. I
7 certainly know that it was prior to April 25th, but I
8 don't remember exactly when it was.

9 Q Sure. You mentioned incident commander, that
10 someone is appointed for certain events. Is there such
11 a thing as a unified commander? Is that any different
12 than the incident commander or does the incident
13 commander serve as the unified commander?

14 A So I -- I will speak from my own experience is
15 that the way that -- that we ran our operations, the way
16 that we run our operations in here is that there is an
17 incident commander. There are times, for example, that
18 it might be the police department who is running as the
19 incident commander and fire department might be, you
20 know, attached as a deputy even though it's a police run
21 event. If it were a major fire, it might be reversed,
22 that that fire would be in that component in the lead,
23 but none of that changed the fact that these multiple
24 jurisdictions or multiple, whether it's disciplines,
25 jurisdictions are all converging to help together.

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1 Q So I understand that you can't order them to
2 cancel, but they would seek your advice, right?

3 A Certainly.

4 Q Okay. And when they would seek your advice,
5 let's just take the Shock Trauma event, for example,
6 what was the advice given?

7 A So I didn't specifically give/provide advice,
8 but the internal conversation that we had was that we
9 could not provide traffic control, we could not provide,
10 you know, guaranteed pedestrian safety. So while all of
11 these events are occurring in the downtown area, we
12 simply couldn't commit resources to something that
13 wasn't an emergency.

14 Q And I assume that was communicated to, for
15 example, a Shock Trauma event?

16 A I -- I would assume that it was. I -- you
17 know, frankly, you know, our department -- well, our
18 department -- my old department, I was in Baltimore
19 City, had such a close relationship with, you know, all
20 of the staff there that I -- I'm certain that there were
21 conversations. And -- and you know, even on our end,
22 you know, we had a lot of people that used to attend
23 that gala, so it wasn't like it was just, you know,
24 important to them and no one else. So I -- I know that
25 none those things were taken lightly, but there just